



## TIP OF THE SPEAR

### WOUNDED WARRIOR REGIMENT TO HOST THIRD ANNUAL MARINE CORPS TRIALS



The Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment will host the third annual Marine Corps Trials for wounded, ill and injured Marines March 1-6 at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Over 300 active duty, reserve and veteran Marines, as well as military representatives from allied nations, will compete in a seven-sport competition to include archery, shooting, wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball, swimming, cycling, and track and field. The Trials is part of the Regiment's Warrior Athlete Reconditioning program, providing



activities and opportunities for wounded warriors to train as athletes and increase strength, allowing them to continue service

or develop healthy habits for life outside the force. The Trials will also serve as an opportunity for the Regiment to select 50 Marines to participate on the 2013 All-Marine Warrior Games team. [Read more](#)

[Wounded Warrior Regiment News](#)



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Marines from Recruiting Station Lansing, Recruiting Sub-Stations Grand Rapids North and South, participated in the opening ceremony for the Grand Rapids Pond Hockey Classic Jan 25. The Marines braved sub-zero wind chill temperatures to present the colors on the frozen surface of Reeds Lake in Grand Rapids, Mich. *(Photo by Sgt. Kevin Maynard)*





## IN THE NEWS

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE EARNS SILVER STAR



Sgt. Miguelange G. Madrigal of 3rd Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company was awarded the Silver Star Jan. 31 for his heroic actions while deployed in Afghanistan in 2010. Madrigal was a member of a squad patrol called in to assist a sniper team under attack in Marjah, a Taliban stronghold. Upon entering the compound, a fellow Marine was struck in the leg by enemy fire. Leaving his covered position, Madrigal lifted the comrade to a nearby canal, coordinated a helicopter attack on enemy positions, and organized an evacuation for the wounded Marine. To this day, Madrigal does not know the man he rescued nearly two years ago. [Read more](#)

### IRAQ VET SURVIVES AVALANCHE



Retired Marine Keith Zeier, who lost a leg and suffered traumatic brain injury following an improvised explosive device blast in Iraq nearly six years ago, survived another life-threatening event Jan. 17: an 800-foot plunge down an icy mountain. The avalanche, at Mount Washington in New Hampshire, left Zeier and two climbing partners with leg injuries. The climb was a fundraiser for Ascents of Honor, a program Zeier and a fellow climber created to inspire people to get involved with wounded veterans. "I would do anything to be back with my team and be in the fight, and now that I can't, this is the best way that I can still continue to help them out,"

said Zeier. [Read more](#)

### BIG THINGS TO COME FOR LEJEUNE HOSPITAL IN 2013



Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune, N.C. has major plans to expand in 2013 as it opens multiple new wings and facilities. Hospital commander Capt. David Lane said, that the hospital will open an ambulatory care wing, emergency department, urgent care center, family medicine wing with orthopedics, physical therapy and occupational therapy; National Intrepid Center of Excellence satellite center; concussion clinic; neonatal intensive care unit; mental health wing; and updated pharmacy and laboratory system. The entire project is expected to be finished in mid- to-late 2014.

[Read more](#)

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## PENDLETON HOSTS 'BOOKS ON BASES'



Brig. Gen. Vincent A. Coglianese, commanding general of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., and Disney Channel star Adam Irigoyen took turns reading "Billy Twitters and His Blue Whale Problem" to military children Jan. 26 during a Books on Bases event. After the reading, the children received free books and completed arts and crafts projects. The event was hosted by Blue Star Families, a nonprofit organization that believes reading helps military children work through the unique challenges they may encounter as a member of a military family, including deployments, separations and moves. [Read more](#)

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## NEW STUDY TO FOCUS ON IRAQ, AFGHANISTAN VETS' HEALTH



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced plans Feb. 4 to conduct a long-term study of the possible health effects of deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan. The burn pit and airborne hazards-related longitudinal study of recent combat veterans is expected to determine whether there is a correlation between deployments and illnesses, such as cancer, respiratory disease, circulatory problems, neurological conditions and more. VA Secretary Erik Shinseki asked the Defense Department to participate in the study and help VA address the medical needs of those who have deployed. [Read more](#)

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## OREGON WOUNDED WARRIOR PRESENTED WITH KEY TO HOUSE AT GEORGE STRAIT CONCERT



Cpl. Kyle Thompson received a new home Jan. 26 during a George Strait concert at the Idaho Center in Bend, Ore. In 2010, Thompson lost an eye and suffered several lacerations to his face and body when his team came across a roadside improvised explosive device while on foot patrol in Afghanistan. Thompson received a Bronze Star with Valor and two Purple Hearts for his service and now, a new home. The house was donated through the Military Warriors Support Foundation's "Homes 4 Wounded Heroes" program. [Read more](#)

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## MCM OFFERING MILITARY PRE-REGISTRATION, DISCOUNT



The Marine Corps Marathon (MCM) is offering a discount for all active duty and reserve military members registering for the 38th MCM that will be held on Sunday, Oct. 27. The registration discount of 15 percent will be available online Feb. 23 through March 24. The MCM has selected Feb. 23 to begin the military discount because of its great significance to the Marine Corps. Sixty eight years ago, five Marines and a U.S. Navy Corpsman raised the America flag atop Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima in World War II. The MCM will be open for public registration on March 27. [Read more](#)



## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

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## FEBRUARY 9, 1904

Capt. A.W. Catlin's 49 Marines established the first permanent Marine garrison in Honolulu, Hawaii. He went on to earn the Medal of Honor in 1914 while leading the Third Marine Regiment in the capture of Vera Cruz, Mexico. He retired as a Brigadier General.



## SEMPER FI

### 2ND MARDIV CELEBRATES 72ND BIRTHDAY



The 2nd Marine Division celebrated its 72nd birthday Feb. 1 with a rededication to its battle colors during a ceremony hosted by the 2nd Marine Division Association at Camp Lejeune, N.C. "From Guadalcanal and Tarawa, to Fallujah and Marjah, the 2nd Marine Division has upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and contributed to the legacy of our Corps," said commanding general, Brig. Gen. James W. Lukeman. Following the ceremony, division and association members alike shared stories of the evolution of the division throughout its 72 years of dedicated service. [Read more](#)

## OUR MISSION

*In the words of Lt. Gen. Victor H. "Brute" Krulak, "The United States does not need a Marine Corps... the United States wants a Marine Corps." As America's Expeditionary Force in Readiness, the Marine Corps is deployed across the globe, standing ready to respond to any crisis. The Marine Corps Connection is*

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